



## Bicycle Trail Descriptions



### In Brief

Prince William Forest Park, a unit of the National Park System, is a 17,000+ acre piedmont forest preserving a variety of natural and cultural resources 32 miles south of Washington, D.C. The park offers a variety of recreational opportunities, including 37 miles of hiking trails, over 21 miles of bicycle accessible roads and trails and numerous campgrounds. The park's cultural resources are varied and include historic cabin camps built by the Civilian Conservation Corps during the 1930s and used by the Office of Strategic Services (predecessor to the CIA) during the Second World War.

### Information

Whether you prefer the security of flat, paved roads or the thrill of off-road paths, Prince William Forest Park is the place for bicycling. Over twelve miles of paved roads and 9.2 miles of fire roads are available. Bicycle racks are located at Pine Grove Picnic Area, Turkey Run Ridge Education Center parking lot and Oak Ridge Campground.

An entrance pass is required to enter the park and may be purchased at either the entrance station or visitor center. Entrance fees assist in improving and maintaining park resources and facilities.

The park is open year-round, seven days a week, from dawn to dusk. The park's visitor center is also open year-round except Christmas Day, Thanksgiving and New Year's Day.

For additional information, please stop by the visitor center during business hours between 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily, or call the visitor center at 703-221-7181.

### Regulations

Bicycles are allowed on the park's paved roads as well as designated unpaved "Fire Roads". Bicycling is prohibited on all hiking trails and in the Chopawamsic Backcountry Area for the safety of hikers and to prevent trail degradation.

1. Riders must ride single file when using paved roads.
2. Riders must obey all traffic regulations.

3. Respect and do not disturb wildlife.
4. Use caution when overtaking others and make your presence known well in advance.

Note: This is only a guide and is not all inclusive. Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations is applicable to the park. For further information, please contact the park's visitor center at 703-221-7181.

### Safety

Bicycling is done at the visitor's own risk. The following is a list of necessary precautions.

1. Helmets and bicycle gloves are recommended.
2. Check your brakes and tire pressure before riding.
3. Be aware of fallen tree debris and ice on all roads and trails.
4. Maintain control of your speed at all times and observe park speed limits and stop signs.

5. Always yield to hikers and other non-motorized recreationalists.
6. Be aware of changing weather conditions.
7. Bring along plenty of water and be sure to drink it.
8. Bring along a park map when riding.

For a law enforcement concern, please contact a park ranger or call Park Dispatch at 866-677-6677, or call 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Scenic Drive

The scenic drive from Pine Grove Picnic Area to the beginning of the Scenic Loop is two miles and is recommended only for the most serious cyclists due to the number of steep grades and blind curves. The scenic loop, which is approximately nine miles round-trip, is accessible from a number of parking areas. Three miles of this loop (beginning at parking lot “D” and ending at Oakridge Road) is one-way traffic leaving one lane available for bicyclists. The north side of the loop from parking lot “D” to parking lot “H” is relatively moderate in difficulty. Beyond Oakridge Road, the road again becomes two-way.

Please stay single-file and to the right when in a group. Between parking lot “H” and “I” on the south side, there are approximately two miles of steep areas that are suitable for experienced bicyclists. Unpaved roads within the park may be used by non-motorized vehicles. These roads, which are rather wide, offer an interesting alternative to the paved roads. Riding on any of the designated hiking trails is prohibited, as bicycles accelerate erosion. Therefore, at many points you must turn around and ride out the same way you rode in. Several possible bike routes, ranging from easy to difficult, are described in detail on this page.

Pyrite Mine Road & Burma Road

Pyrite Mine Road is across from parking lot “D” and next to North Orenda Road. It is one mile long and all down hill with the exception of a small hill near the end after a bridge crossing. Once across the bridge, turn left and go to the end of the road to see the remains of the commissary on the right. Straight ahead, is a boardwalk that leads out to a deck under a few pine trees. This is a good place to refuel for for the climb back up to the Scenic Drive.

Burma Road is Located on the Scenic Drive about half way between parking lots “E” and “F”, across from Taylor Farm Road. This road is 1.4 miles long and offers a great deal of excitement. From the Scenic Drive, it is all downhill, which if not careful, one can reach speeds over thirty miles per hour at the stream crossing. From here, it’s payback for that great ride down with steep rocky climbs and descends to the park boundary. Burma Road is a great workout.

Taylor Farm Road & Old Black Top Road

Taylor Farm Road can be found about half way between parking lots “E” and “F”. This road can be accessed from many points. Two options are from parking lot “F” via Old Black Top Road or the TREC parking lot also via Old Black Top Road. This road can be somewhat challenging due to two medium sized hills which can raise the heart rate a little. If taking the taylor Farm Road out to the cemetery site, notice that the road stops at the South Valley Trail. At this point one must turn around.

Old Black Top Road is just over 1.5 miles long and is located across from parking lot “F” or at the Turkey Run Education Center (TREC) parking lot. This road has two medium-sized hills and can be used as a shortcut around the Scenic Drive which leaves out a large hill on the western side of the drive.

Liming Lane & West Gate Road

Liming Lane starts at the Scenic Drive just west of parking lot “I” with an upward grade to the park boundary 0.9 miles away. About half way down there is an old stone building in a clearing on the left. This was built by the Civilian Conservation Corps for storage and is still in use by the park today. The Liming Cemetery site can be found near the park’s border. A small grassy road to the right will take you through a clearing down a steep hill into a mature forest. The cemetery is located beyond the forest.

West Gate Road is at the northwestern edge of the park. It can be found at the Oakridge Campground parking lot. It is the easiest of all the fire roads with only one small hill out and back.

Mawavi Road, Lake One Road & North Orenda Road

Mawavi Road is found by parking lot “G”. This road has two good hills, one in both directions. Mawavi Road is 0.9 miles long and will take you to Cabin Camp Two. Which is for permit campers only. At this point you will have to go back the way you came in.

Lake One Road next to parking lot “E”, is 0.4 miles long and has one hill. Riders should use caution use caution when descending the hill. There is a lake at the end of the road, which is a great place to picnic.

North Orenda Road is one mile in length beginning at parking lot “D”. Along the way, take notice at the top of the second hill on the right. The Lewis and Johnson Cemetery is located here marked by a small metal gate. From this point, the road becomes easier to the Scenic Drive.

